

REMARKS

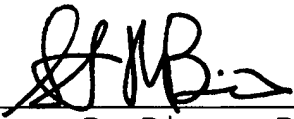
In the outstanding Official Action, claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Simoes (Fig. 1). In response, claim 1 is herewith amended to more particularly and precisely define the novel features of the instant invention, and it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, as herein amended, and the remaining pending claims are clearly patentably distinguishable over Simoes, for the reasons detailed below.

As herein amended, claim 1 now additionally recites that the means for reducing the DC-offset and the noise produced by the amplifier comprise an input chopper coupled to the input of the amplifier and an output chopper coupled to the output of the amplifier. It is respectfully submitted that such a circuit configuration, as now more clearly and precisely recited, is neither shown nor suggested in Fig. 1 of Simoes. More particularly, Simoes neither shows nor suggests the use of choppers at the amplifier input and output for reducing the DC-offset and the noise produced by the amplifier. The configuration and operation of these chopper circuits is clearly shown in Fig. 1 of the instant application and described in the associated portion of the detailed description. As clearly shown and described, these chopper circuits comprise a plurality of switches which serve to reverse the input connections, a circuit configuration not shown in Simoes.

Furthermore, the additional pending claims, many of which are independent claims, recite further limitations clearly neither shown nor suggested in Simoes. Thus, for example, independent claim 2 further recites that the input chopper is arranged in cascade between the input of the circuit and the input of the amplifier, and the output chopper is synchronized with the input chopper and is arranged in cascade in between the output of the amplifier and the output of the circuit. In like manner, the additional claims, many of which are independent claims, are respectfully submitted to contain further structural limitations neither shown nor suggested in the cited and applied reference, and it is accordingly respectfully submitted that the anticipation rejection of the currently-pending claims has been overcome.

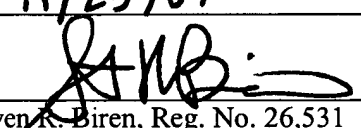
Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the currently-pending claims, as herein amended, are now in condition for allowance, and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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